

University of Groningen

## Statistical and economic applications of Chinese regional input-output tables

Jiang, Xuemei

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

*Document Version*

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

*Publication date:*

2011

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Jiang, X. (2011). *Statistical and economic applications of Chinese regional input-output tables*. University of Groningen, SOM research school.

### Copyright

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

### Take-down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.

## Preface

In 2006, I was selected as one of the first candidates for the joint double degree program which was established by the research institute and graduate school SOM of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands and the graduate university of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in China. During the five years that followed, I was very lucky to have many people supporting and helping me to write this thesis and finish this program. In this preface, I would like to take the opportunity to mention and thank the people who supported me in different ways during my research project.

I would like to start by thanking my supervisors at the University of Groningen, Prof. Erik Dietzenbacher and Dr. Bart Los. First and foremost, I am very grateful to Erik for his excellent guidance from the beginning to the completion of this thesis. He offered me valuable ideas, suggestions and criticisms with his profound knowledge in research. Especially in the first months, when I made very slow progress due to difficulties to get used to the different research culture, language and lifestyle in Groningen, he showed amazing patience and kindness, encouraging me to overcome all the difficulties. I am also extremely grateful to Bart, whose enthusiasm and valuable advices have been indispensable to the completion of this thesis. He always gave high priority to my research instruction and thesis writing and gave timely feedback, which made me feel that he was always there, ready to help. Both Erik and Bart have played important roles in training my research thinking and English writing. Without them it would not have been possible for me to finish this thesis. Moreover, I gratefully acknowledge their extra suggestions helping me to develop my research career. ERIK and BART, thank you very much for all your help, I have been lucky to be your PhD student.

Secondly, I am very much grateful to my supervisors at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Prof. Tong Rencheng and Prof. Wang Shouyang. Prof. Tong guided me when starting research in input-output analysis in 2003. For me, he is much more than

## II

just a supervisor of my PhD research. He is a mentor and advisor, looking after me like an elder family member. I will continue to benefit greatly from what I have learnt from him in my future lifetime. Prof. Wang welcomed me in his research group and gave me very useful feedback when he had time. He is the one who encouraged me to focus on research which can solve the real problems faced by the Chinese economy. This is one of the main reasons why I found research is useful and interesting enough to pursue a career in. I am also grateful to Prof. Wang for offering me a researcher position in the center for Forecasting Science of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Thanks very much.

I would like to extend my thanks to all staff members who initiated the joint double degree program and worked for it. Without this program I could not have been in the Netherlands for this project. Special thanks should go to Prof. Jakob de Haan and Mrs. Rina Koning, the organizers of this program at the University of Groningen, and Prof. Zhao Hong and Dr. Wang Qian, the organizers of this program at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Thanks for accepting my application for this program in 2006, it has changed my life.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the members of the reading committee who devoted their time and efforts to reading my thesis: Prof. Jan Oosterhaven from the University of Groningen, Prof. Joaquim Guilhoto from the University of São Paulo and Prof. Yang Cuihong from the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Jan was actively involved in this project since the very beginning, by giving me very valuable comments and suggestions when I presented the working papers in several seminars and conferences. Cuihong helped me a lot in data collection and gave me very useful suggestions on how to deal with the data in one of the chapters. I am indebted to all of them for their contributions.

Furthermore, I want to thank many of my colleagues at the University of Groningen, for providing a pleasant and friendly working environment. I mention only a few of them here by name. The staff in the Research School SOM, Ellen, Astrid, Martin and Rina, helped me a lot in solving all kinds of administrative and

legal issues. Arthur saved me a lot of trouble by tackling all the printing issues related to my thesis. I owe special thanks to them. I also want to extend my thanks to the colleagues in the Faculty of Economics and Business: Ana, Janneke, Jiansuo, Maaïke, Rujie, Tristan, Umed, Xue, Yusof and Zhao. The talks with them at both academic and non-academic levels were always joyful.

I also want to thank many of my colleagues in the Chinese Academy of Sciences, for supporting me to finish this program. Prof. Xu Jian from the Graduate University is highly appreciated for his stimulating comments on my research during my full PhD study; Prof. Chen Xikang always gave me very valuable comments when I presented my research work, ever since 2003. They deserve my sincere gratitude. I would also like to thank all my current colleagues at the Center for Forecasting Science, including Prof. Chen for welcoming me and for their great patience during the last phase of finalizing my thesis. They made my transition from Groningen to Beijing much easier.

What is more, my sincere thanks also go to the friends outside the universities for their company. Thank you, Eva, Barbara and Steven for being wonderful roommates and providing me a lot of tips for living in Europe. I am also grateful to Xuan, Liping, Bo, Xiuxiu, Wendy and Yang. The frequent dinner parties and trips together across Europe added a lot of fun to my life in Groningen.

Last but not the least, I would like to express my deepest thankfulness to my parents. I know that they are very proud of me for getting my doctoral degrees. But I am even more proud to be their daughter as they provided me with the essentials to get the degrees: some basic intelligence and the spirit of never giving up. Their unconditional love and support has always been my inspiration.

Xuemei

Beijing, China

March, 2011